



GRANT RECIPIENT
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
CALUMET

YEAR
2004

COUNTY
PORTER

CATEGORY
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

GRANT AWARD
\$38,832

LOCAL SHARE
\$25,888



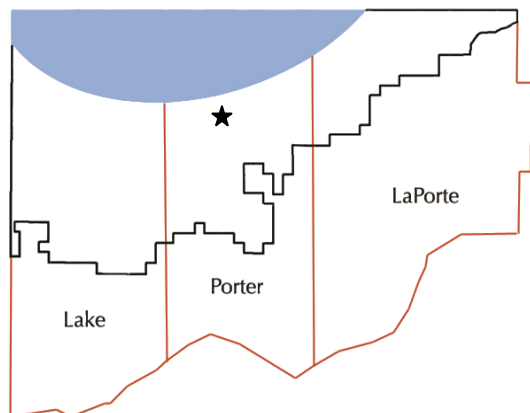
FOR MORE INFORMATION
Lake Michigan Coastal Program
1600 N 25 E
Chesterton, IN 46304
(219) 983-9912
www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich



Demonstration of Oak-Savanna Restoration in a Disturbed Sand Dune

The Lake Michigan coastal area along the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is amassed of rare plants and endangered ecosystems. But early in the history of the region's settlement, the shoreline was considered an untapped resource and was subject to heavy industrial development. One such resource was the abundance of sand, which was heavily mined on the site of present day West Beach managed by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Today, the West Beach location has been allowed to recover, and restoration programs are ongoing to restore the dune system to its natural glory. For instance, in this demonstration project managed by Purdue University Calumet, oak-savanna, a once prominent dune habitat, was restored and researched. The purpose of this project was to conduct an experimental study for oak-savanna restoration to determine the likelihood of success of such a project. By planting 200 black-oak seedlings on a 2-acre site and monitoring their progress, researchers gained valuable scientific information. Additionally, experiments were demonstrated to the public through environmental education materials and activities.



RESULT: Conducted a study on 200 newly planted black-oaks on a 2-acre site and gained a better understanding of oak-savanna restoration.